

# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XIV, Issue No. 070

WEDNESDAY MARCH 10, 2004

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I N S I D E

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See HOUSE on Page 8

# Local

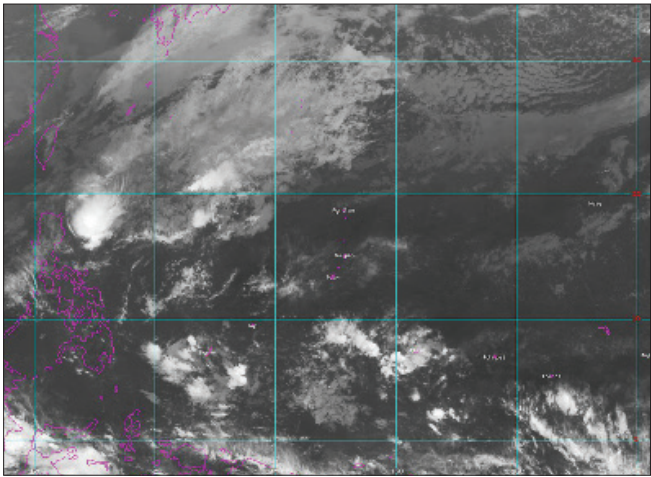


CARS UNLIMITED

CENTURY TRAVEL

COMMUNITY Briefs

WEATHER FORECAST



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 AM., MARCH 9, 2004  
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Fresh to strong trade winds across much of Micronesia converging into lighter winds near the Equator are producing scattered showers between the Equator and 8n from 130e to 153 and between the Equator and 6n from 160e to 180. A cold front stretches from 25n161e to 20n146e and continues as a shear line to 19n130e. Low- and mid-level clouds...light rain and showers associated this feature extend up to 200 miles north of the boundary. Trade wind convergence south of the cold front/shear line is producing low clouds and showers between 12n and 18n from 132e to 150e. This area includes the Mariana Islands.

**SAIPAN AND TINIAN**  
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** East at 15-20 mph. Highs near 87. Lows near 76.

**GUAM AND ROTA**  
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** East at 15-20 mph. Highs near 87. Lows near 76.

**PALAU**  
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** Northeast at 15 kt.

**POHNPEI**  
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** Northeast at 15 kt.

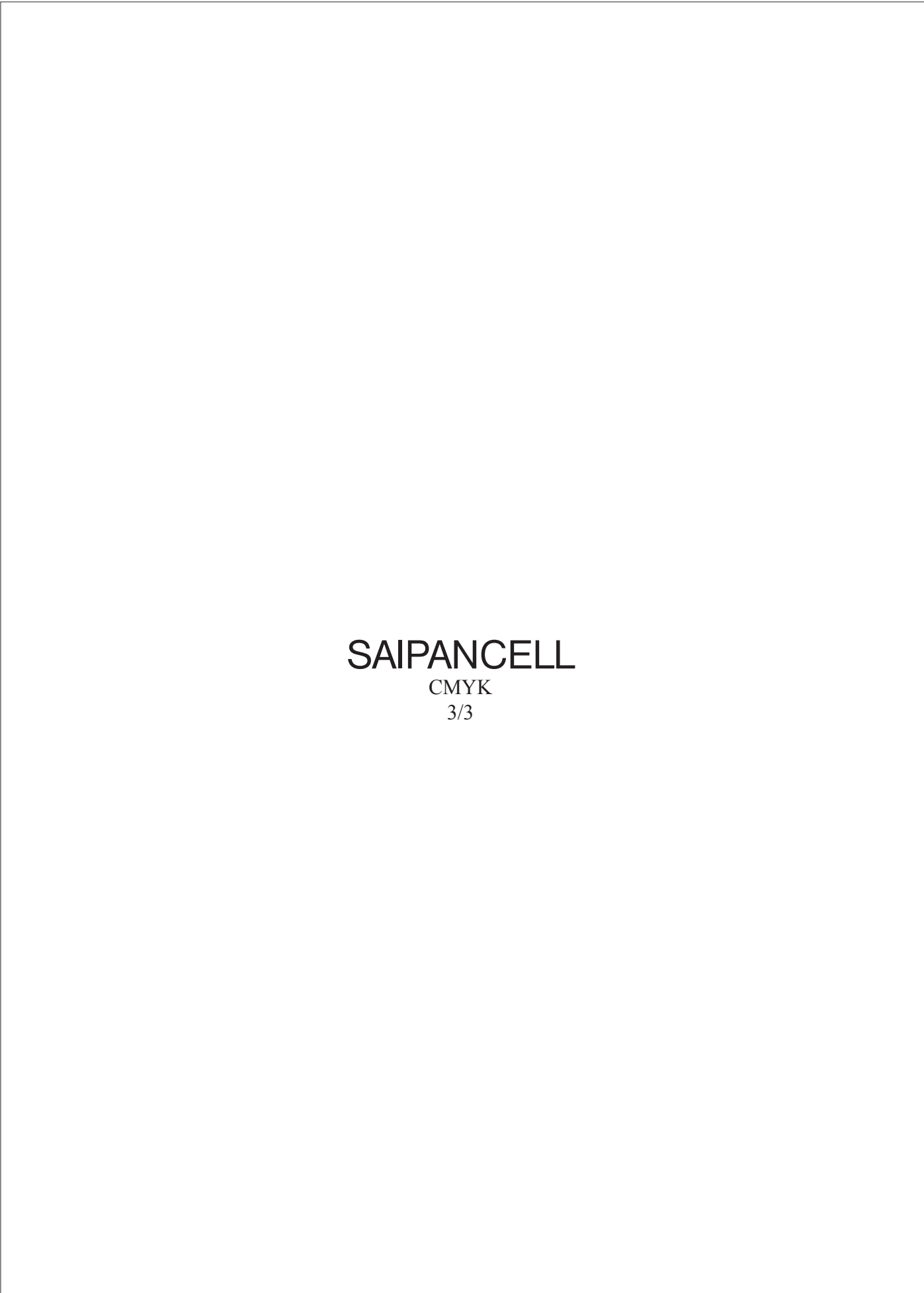
**YAP AND ULITHI**  
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** Northeast at 15-20 kt.

**KOSRAE**  
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** East at 10-15 kt.

**CHUUK**  
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  
**Winds:** Northeast at 15-20 kt.

**MAJURO**  
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.  
**Winds:** East at 15-20 kt.

CITY	FORECAST	HIGH	LOW
Auckland	Sunny	71F (22C)	60F (16C)
Beijing	Sunny	65F (18C)	48F (9C)
Hong Kong	Sunny	74F (23C)	61F (16C)
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	82F (28C)	68F (20C)
London, England	Sunny	45F (7C)	30F (-1C)
Los Angeles	Sunny	79F (26C)	59F (15C)
Manila	Partly Cloudy	88F (31C)	73F (23C)
Melbourne	Sunny	75F (24C)	59F (15C)
Miami	Partly Cloudy	72F (22C)	54F (12C)
New York City	Cloudy	40F (4C)	34F (1C)
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	37F (3C)	25F (-4C)
Paris	Partly Cloudy	38F (3C)	25F (-4C)
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	53F (12C)	39F (4C)
Rome	Cloudy	49F (9C)	30F (-1C)
Salem, Oregon	Partly Cloudy	60F (16C)	40F (4C)
San Francisco	Sunny	68F (20C)	52F (11C)
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	47F (8C)	35F (2C)
Tokyo, Japan	Partly Cloudy	42F (6C)	36F (2C)
Washington, DC	Cloudy	45F (7C)	34F (1C)



# Opinion

## Saipan Tribune

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## EDITORIAL

### Healing health care

This is "Cover the Uninsured Week," when health care advocates take note of the failures of the U.S. health care system. This year, the focus has been on the number of uninsured, which is high and growing rapidly: According to the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, there are now 43.3 million uninsured, about 17 percent of the non-elderly population.

Yet the recitation of these numbers is misleading if it suggests that solving the health care crisis is a simple matter of extending coverage. To some extent, both presidential campaigns have sometimes pandered to this illusion. A large chunk of Sen. John Kerry's \$650 billion health plan, according to a recent study by health economist Kenneth Thorpe, would go to an expansion of Medicaid and State Children's Health Insurance Programs to cover more lower-income people. President Bush's policies would use tax credits to extend coverage too, albeit to people already wealthy enough to pay taxes.

Each plan has potential. But expanding coverage, whether to the middle classes or the poor, is not sufficient to fix a health care system distorted by spiraling costs and perverse financial incentives; nor, in the long run, is it possible without addressing those issues. This country has the most expensive health care system in the world, but not the healthiest population. America also has both a medical malpractice system so rigid it puts good doctors out of business, and an extraordinarily high rate of medical errors. Billing systems discourage innovation and preventive medicine, instead rewarding doctors who prescribe long hospital stays and expensive procedures.

For that reason, true reform needs to go farther. Certainly any far-reaching reform must make greater use of evidence-based medicine: Over and over, surveys show that too many doctors fail to offer their patients the most highly recommended treatment. It may be time for the federal government to play a role by collecting and publishing information or by requiring doctors and hospitals to do so.

Smarter uses of technology—particularly computerized medical records and prescriptions, now used by only 10 percent of health care practitioners—as well as more effective forms of preventive medicine should be encouraged by government too, as Kerry and Bush have suggested. Better information and technology will in turn facilitate the use of consumer-driven, high-deductible health packages, which encourage consumers to make better choices.

Taxes can and should be used to encourage this new type of health plan. But more generally, taxes and regulations can and should be altered to remove the bias in favor of employer-paid health care. Ultimately, the goal has to be a system that allows people to keep their insurance when they change jobs or move in and out of the labor market.

These changes require political courage: Until now, both insurers and the government have been reluctant to publish lists of accepted practices and recommended drugs, for example, for fear of leaving out someone's beloved provider, or even being sued by a drug company. But every service that insurers are forced to cover raises the costs, pushing someone else off the insurance rolls. It's time that Americans and their political leaders recognize that there are trade-offs in health care as in everything else and start preparing themselves to make hard choices.

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## It's not just a driver's license anymore

By AMITAI ETZIONI  
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

Every time a Transportation Security Administration agent closely examines my driver's license, I have a hard time not making one of those wisecracks that gets you into trouble. The reason? I know that driver's licenses as a means of identification are a joke. Fake ones can still be ordered on the Internet or purchased for about \$60 in many cities, and real ones can be obtained fraudulently.

The joke becomes a lot less funny when one recalls that several of the 9/11 hijackers used phony documents to acquire driver's licenses, which they used to obtain credit cards, enroll in flight school and purchase airplane tickets. Yet little has been done since then to make driver's licenses more reliable, despite the fact that they are by far the most commonly used means of identification in the United States—not just for travel, but also for entering most public buildings and numerous private ones. As a result, the "no fly" and "selectee" watch lists (used by the TSA to identify passengers who pose threats to airline safety), as well as other security-related databases, are at least partially blinded.

I am hardly a smart-card expert (or even a dull-witted one). But as a sociologist and social philosopher, I have studied circumstances under which concern for the common good might trump the right to privacy—for instance, the question of whether convicted pedophiles should be required to notify the communities in which they settle of their predilections. As a result, the New York-based Markle Foundation, which focuses on technology policy, invited me to join a task force composed of privacy advocates and former officials from the Pentagon, National Security Administration and CIA to study national security and information technology. I chaired a subgroup on reliable identification.

Our deliberations opened with a bombshell. Robert Cramer of the General Accounting Office described a test in which GAO agents had been able to enter the United States using counterfeit driver's licenses without being stopped—25 out of 25 times in late 2002 and early 2003. They entered through sea ports from Canada, walked through border crossings from Mexico and arrived at airports from Jamaica. Shocked by these findings, our subgroup issued a report in 2003 with a long list of remedies. In March and April this year, Jared Bloom, my research assistant, and I queried officials in the 50 states and the District of Columbia about mea-

sures taken on these matters. The findings reveal how useless driver's licenses are as a means of identification:

- It is still impossible for any state to find out whether a person applying for a driver's license has already been issued one by another state (unless the applicant has had a license revoked or suspended). Thus, anyone with a clean driver's record can get a handful of licenses and hand over the extras to terrorists or other criminals.

- Sixteen states still do not check online to see if an applicant presents a valid Social Security number. Instead, they submit hard copies of Social Security numbers for confirmation. While waiting for replies, several of these states let applicants, who can be very hard to locate later, walk away with possibly false temporary, or sometimes even permanent, licenses.

- Each state follows its own procedures in deciding which so-called breeder documents (those used to obtain other cards or forms of identification) will be used to determine applicants' identities.

- Seventeen states do not require proof that applicants are legally in the United States.

- Only nine states collect biometric information (facial features, iris patterns or fingerprints), which is the most reliable means of identification. (In Texas, for example, fingerprints are taken and put on file, but not on the licenses themselves.)

Driver's licenses—like other state-issued ID cards—are relics of the past. They were never meant to be used for national security purposes, or even national identification purposes. Hence, a relatively low level of reliability sufficed for the original purpose of confirming that a person had passed a driving test, met the physical requirements and was old enough to operate a vehicle.

The rub is that since 9/11, these state-issued pieces of plastic have been used increasingly as de facto national security cards, because a driver's license issued by one state is honored by all others and because federal authorities, especially the TSA, treat them as the equivalents of national passports. However, the federal government has not taken over the issuance of these cards the way it controls the issuance of Social Security or green cards. It has not even required states to improve their own issuance practices. It has merely treated the licenses as though they were high-grade certificates.

*The author, a sociologist, is University Professor at George Washington University and founder and director of the Communitarian Network.*



## Letters to the Editor

Saipan Tribune welcomes contributions. All letters intended for publication must include the writer's name, address and, if possible, fax or telephone number. Letters are edited for space, clarity and fairness.

## Patience is a virtue

The recent decision by the Board of Regents regarding the shut-down of the La Fiesta Mall facility was pragmatic in light of the fiscal constraints the college has endured since it was made evident that there were not enough monetary resources left in the financial coffers to cover the monthly operating obligation of over \$50,000 subsequent to the submission of Kenneth Wright's resignation during the first quarter of this year.

However, because the Substantive Change Report submitted at the onset of April 2004 was rejected by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the leadership of the college was told by the officials at WASC to resubmit the report within the next month or two, i.e., June or July, then it might be premature for the board to continue their quest to secure funding for the La Fiesta Mall until WASC issues their determination on whether the physical move to the San Rogue site is acceptable in terms of being within the parameters of the standards established by WASC.

If, for whatever reason, the second revised Substantive Change Report is submitted to WASC within the next 60 days and they reject it outright, then the pursuit of any potential funding for the La Fiesta mall facility from organizations that concur with the concept and are willing to assist NMC with a loan, will be an exercise in futility. Until the Substantive Change Report is accepted in full and approved without reservations by WASC, then it would not be prudent to waste and expend any precious time and energy in trying to secure funding for the facility in San Rogue. The pursuit for any funding sources should be subsequent to WASC granting approval to make the physical move to the shopping mall facility and not before. To pursue the funding prior to the approval would be like purchasing a car before getting a driver's license.

Should WASC not accept the second revised Substantive Change Report submitted during the next two months regarding the physical move to the La Fiesta Mall complex, then the board will be ostensibly confronted with the stark reality that what is desired by the college leadership is not in line with what the accreditation agency considers acceptable. To try and pursue anything like a major move to a new facility without being granted the approval and receiving the blessing from WASC might create some tension and strife between both entities, which will hinder any chance of restoring accreditation status to NMC.

If WASC should reject the revised Substantive Change Report submitted for the second time in June and July, then it might be time for the Board of Regents to sit down and begin discussing the issue of selling the La Fiesta Mall. The sale of the San Rogue facility would effectively remove the college permanently from the financial monthly commitment of over \$50,000 and an annual payment of \$200,000 plus interest to be paid every year for the next twenty years. Taking away these burdensome financial obligations will bring the college closer to becoming financially stable and solvent.

The status of solvency and financial stability are requirements of WASC for institutions of higher education to secure accreditation. The upside of the sale of La Fiesta would not only eradicate the crippling obligation of monthly and yearly payments that come close to a half a million dollars per annum, but the proceeds made available from the sale could be used to bring the college out of the red by paring down significantly the present \$1.5 million dollar deficit and begin taking care of maintenance issues with the original campus. As NMC becomes financially stable down the line, then the planning for modest increases for the faculty and staff should be initiated.

The only downside of the sale of the La Fiesta Mall facility would be that the dream and education initiative of Gov. Juan Babauta involving NMC which he promoted before and after he won the gubernatorial slot for the CNMI in 2001 would not come to fruition and become the reality. Good decision making

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## No child left behind

The catchy title of the Bush administration's legislation on education, "No Child Left Behind," runs into a reality check as schools come to the end of a term and begin to assess the state of public school learning. The touted education reform legislation, ambitious in scope and couched in absolute imperatives, is being measured for efficiency and efficacy.

The recent headline of Hopwood seventh-grade students reading at 3rd grade level did not come as a surprise. This situation is not unique to the NMI. Nationally, the lower grades and pre-college schools are registering low ratings in reading levels.

There are many reasons that brought us to this situation, not the least of which is the fact that our mode of communication has changed drastically in the last 50 years. Until the end of World War II, we still depended on text and the printed word as our basic mode of communication. Messages were transmitted by radio, telegram, and plain printed pages. With the onset of television and the democratization of the visual image, our young have since become consumers of tactile, audio, olfactory and graphic stimulation. Students grow impatient with highly abstracted words and symbols.

Our consumer lifestyle has also introduced us to gratification on demand. We've mastered the art of fast food service. We are at a loss in providing fast track learning. When sixth graders come to class with text messaging cellular devices, the teacher is driven to wits end. How does one cope? On the one hand, we have just newly emancipated imaginations from the shackles of traditional island-bound, extensive extended-family network of authoritarian bondage and, on the other, highly excitable liberated nuclear souls who have bought into our promise of education as leading to a better life, and are eager to get on with it at a speed, preferably faster than light.

My sixth-grade class has 23 mainstream students whose reading levels extends from second grade to 12.9++. Trying to design a single lesson plan to implement a curriculum that fits all requires a genius and half, and a commando general briefed on guerrilla warfare to implement it successfully. The same teacher is also under pressure to meet standards to meet administrators' requirements to meet accreditation benchmarks and statistics. Further, the increasing diversity and complexity of evident but undiagnosed learning disabilities add to the great challenge abiding in society's microcosm residing daily in many of our public school classrooms.

The sole special education student in my class reads and writes at a first grade level. Though I belatedly discovered that she picks up on verbal rhymes, and can remember numbered sequences, most of my time has been spent on behavior issues rather than instructional ones. Classroom management has become the bane of every teacher's pedagogical existence.

Attempting to mainstream a Special Ed student highlights the need to move into classroom situations where everyone comes with

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Vergara is a Social Studies 6th grade teacher at San Vicente Elementary School and writes a regular column for the Saipan Tribune.



an independent educational plan (IEP). Mainstream students are no longer homogenous, if they ever were. Teachers grow cynical and are driven to despair when reduced to playing the role of truancy officers, in general, and surrogate parents, in particular.

Consider some of the characters in my class:

There's a peripatetic young lady who fleets and flutters from one table to another like a reigning beauty queen or an aspiring politician. Enters daily a loud-mouthed hyperactive budding jock who announces every other minute that he is "the Man" and will beat you up if one does not acknowledge the same. Quietly perusing a thick bestseller, a chubby bookworm tells the teacher to her face that he, the student, did not learn anything new this year that he did not already know before the school term began. Then there is the free-spirited outer island boy who is advanced in age but has been detained a grade level to "meet standards," and deftly plays a hide-and-seek game of now-you-see me, now-you-don't! Need I mention Barbie doll and her low threshold for tears if the teacher's voice is raised a couple of decibel higher in her direction? How about the Mama's boys whose resilient umbilical cords remains uncut, and Papa's girls who think everyone should eat off their hands? My favorite is an obesity-challenged young rebel whose curiosity will not allow him to leave anything that does not belong to him untouched. Queried last week, during a reflective class conversation on what exciting anticipation he had as classes wind down to summer, he answered with the arrogance and aplomb of a Winston Churchill: "I will not ever have to see Mr. Vergara again." I think I might have pushed a raw button on this last one!

Early on during the year, I decided that pedagogy in my class will have to be an authentic encounter. Students had to learn how to GROW UP AGAINST the teacher! Learning was dialogical. Direct instructions were both buck shot and laser beamed. There were two people on both ends of the communication line, and they had to touch at a less than superficial level in order to connect, no child left behind. That happens when teachers and students meet as persons—unencumbered by half-hearted hugs and saccharine lolipops. Then, learning happens.

## Prison scandal an American tradition

By **DAVID MATLIN**

Special to Newsday

There is a cold stench coming off the pictures from Abu Ghraib prison.

President Bush claims that these images do not represent America, and nearly all of the comments by either our politicians or media spokespersons fail to grasp the most dangerous connections between these pictures and our domestic policies of massive prison construction over the last 20 years.

I find myself in near despair writing this article because these images are the images of ourselves that we have, at now unimaginable costs, either ignored or tragically embraced inside our own society for decades.

The pictures of our young men and women "loosening up" prisoners are part of the secret ransoms of our daily lives we have chosen to place at the most conveniently distant moral boundaries, hidden from either our questions or the painful glare of our indifferences.

I am looking at pictures (published by The New York Times) of small steel cages California juvenile offenders are thrown into; these are images of barbarity and inhumanity.

Or am I thinking of prisoners in Maryland, chained at wrist and ankle and thrown into cells with holes in the middle of the floor for urine and feces, who experience such isolation that they can only in last resort try to stab the hands that torment them for human contact? Or am I remembering the horror tales of forced gladiatorial combat in the prisons of California, where in the face of massive budget cuts the only "entity" to receive increases is prisons, which currently house more than 162,000 persons?

Kings County in California, for instance, is the largest county in the United States, where currently more than 10 percent of the population are prisoners. Lassen County has a population of 35,000; 10,500 are prisoners.

The math, though easy at a simple calculable level, should pro-

duce nothing but unease. But we as a people have chosen to maintain a catastrophic subworld of punishment and security that has, in turn, become deadening.

"Jail Cam," a station in Phoenix, Ariz., was recently designed for "educational and deterrent purposes" as defined by the self-described "nation's toughest sheriff," Joe Arpaio. Its cameras featured female inmates using a toilet, each view Internet-accessible.

During the prison-building boom of the last 20 years, the number of Americans in our jails or prisons has quadrupled from 582,000 in 1980 to more than 2.1 million in 2000, and the numbers have not gone down.

Though I haven't really begun to find the range of this story, unspeakable as it is, the images nonetheless from Abu Ghraib are the unsayable whispers of our own invention heaving with wanton violation. Has our normalization of prison and its economics made public trust impossible, and will the historically allowable invasions of cruelty and the yearning for more and more cruelty as witnessed by our embrace of prisons place the recovery of a public trust into a distance we may, even now, never be able to recompose?

The form and signature of these immeasurable losses invades the images from Abu Ghraib and now, more than at any other time in our history, those images humiliate and set us adrift. Make no mistake; these are ugly, dangerous facts about who we may be and who we think we are.

In Texas there are the choirs that stand outside prisons while convicts are being given lethal injections and serenade the about-to-die with "Happy Trails."

The unquestioned ease of such barbarous cruelty I hope does not mean that we have become a people no longer safe from ourselves, who will look for any hidden means possible to trivialize our most lawfully malevolent impulses as those impulses harm and poison others.

Matlin is a novelist, poet and essayist. He teaches literature and creative writing at San Diego State University.

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PATIENCE

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generally leads to good results. However, not all good decisions involving finances and moving an organization in a particular direction lead to a stable

situation. The absence of good decision making will no doubt lead to results that will inevitably end up becoming problematic. If more problems are introduced into the situation at NMC, which is clearly unstable fiscally, then there will be less time to work on

strengthening the existing academic programs for present and future students attending NMC. And when this happens, the students matriculating for a two year degree, both from the island community as well as foreign countries, will end up with educational

preparation and foundation that might not be as strong as it could have been. Since these students will be the leaders for the CNMI in the near and distant future, it is imperative that the leadership for the college ensure that the educational foundation they receive from the

dedicated faculty members who work painstakingly every academic year remains strong and increases in strength as time goes on.

**Dr. Jesus D. Camacho**  
Delano, California



# NMI students invited to visit Korea

Attention all CNMI students!

The Saipan Junior Chamber, with the support of the Marianas Flame Tree Junior Chamber and Junior Chamber International-Pacific, is inviting all high school and college students to participate in a trip to Seoul, South Korea.

The event, dubbed the 13th Annual Saipan Junior Chamber Student Visit to Korea Program, features a five-day stay—June 21–26—where students will visit the sights and sounds of Seoul, as well as the opportunity to create new friends and interact with another culture.

All students taking part in the trip must be a resident of the CNMI; must be enrolled in any public or private high school or college; must be above the age of 15; must have a grade point average of 3.0; and must not have participated in previous Korea visit program trips.

All participants are also required to pay a registration fee of \$300, which would include air and ground transportation, lodging, meals, and other expenses that may arise during the program. Applications may be faxed to 235-9214.

In hopes of raising funds for the trip, the SJC will be holding a golf fundraiser on May 22, 2004. Tickets are \$100, which includes green fee, dinner, and drinks.

According to a statement, the goal of the JCI is “to contribute to the advancement of the global community by providing the opportunity for young people

to develop the leadership skills, social responsibility, fellowship, and entrepreneurship necessary to create positive change.”

For more information concerning the Student Visit Ko-

rea Program or the golf fundraiser, contact SJC secretary

Yohan Kim at 235-9215/6. *(Shan Seman)*

## 13-year miners’ strike goes to Fiji high court

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand** (RNZI/PIR)—A lawsuit over Fiji’s longest running strike, which began in February 1991, has gone before the Lautoka High Court.

About 400 workers of the Emperor Gold Mining company went on strike 13 years ago for better pay and working conditions and improved mine safety.

The company sacked them, saying their action was illegal, and hired new workers.

The government de-registered the union the following year.

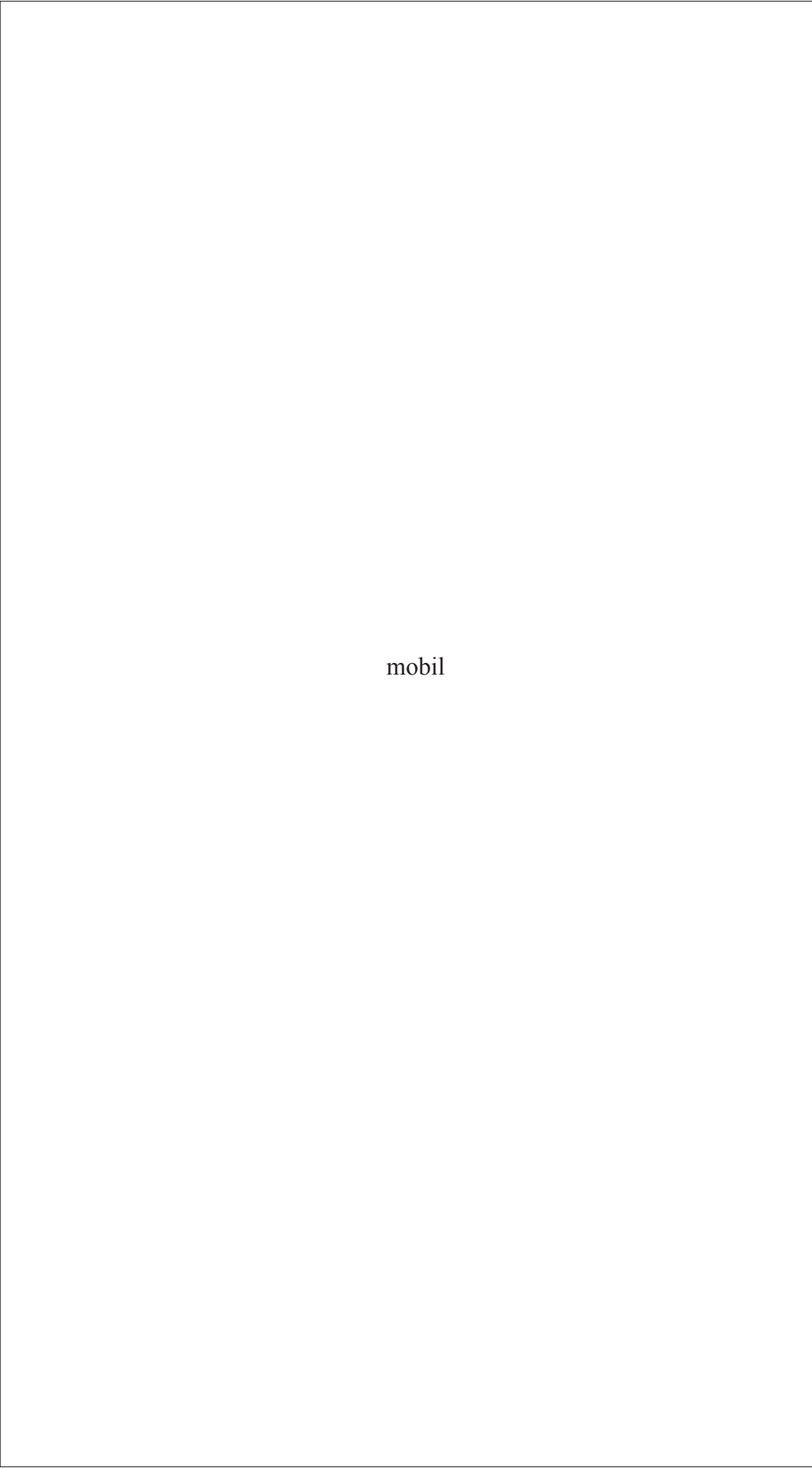
The report of a government-ordered commission of inquiry into the strike in 1995 was ignored by Emperor, which challenged its validity because the company claimed it was a few days late.

The hearing of that challenge began yesterday.

Meanwhile, the union is claiming US\$20 million in compensation for the misery and hardship faced by the strikers who have maintained a picket outside the mine for 13 years.

microl  
+red





mobil



pest control





Business

Bank chief warns oil prices to hurt Asia

By KENJI HALL  
AP WRITER

**JEJU, South Korea (AP)**—Surging oil prices, higher interest rates and the gap between rich and poor countries threaten the growth of Asian economies, delegates to an economic conference were told Saturday.

Asia-Pacific nations are expected to grow at a brisk 6.8 percent in 2004 and 6.7 percent in 2005, Tadao Chino, president of the Asian Development Bank, told an annual meeting of

the Manila-based bank.

Oil prices now at 13-year highs as well as geopolitical concerns could slow economic growth, Chino said.

Although Asia includes economic giant Japan and emerging juggernaut China, about 720 million Asians—nearly two-thirds of the world’s poor—still live on less than \$1 a day, according to the bank.

Speculation also has increased that U.S. policy-makers will raise interest rates soon, delegates noted at the start of

the three-day conference.

Delegates spoke of how China’s recent efforts to rein in its overheating economy might affect regional growth.

“All of these risks underscore the importance of close cooperation and continued implementation of key policy and structural reforms in the region,” Chino said.

Finance ministers and central bankers from 63 nations were

among the more than 3,200 delegates attending the conference, which runs through Monday, on this resort island.

The bank funnels billions of dollars a year in loans and economic aid to the region and recently has become a forum for economic policy-makers from Asia as well as Europe, the United States and Canada.

The bank has also led a push to lower Asia’s dependence on

international lenders such as the World Bank and counter the economic presence of the North American Free Trade Agreement and the European Union.

In 2000, countries agreed to a currency swap plan as a way to protect each other’s currencies in times of crisis and prevent a recurrence of the 1997-1998 Asian financial turmoil.

On Saturday, ministers from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Japan, China and South Korea met to work out a deal to integrate their bond markets.

The plan is part of a broader drive to pool foreign currency reserves and boost financial policy coordination to make money flow more freely between nations.

Haruhiko Kuroda, Japan’s special envoy, told officials Friday that Asia’s shift toward greater regional integration brightens the prospects for a common Asian currency to rival the euro in the future.

But critics say the idea, which has been bandied about for more than a decade, would require a level of trade and monetary integration that Asia isn’t ready for yet.

*Oil prices said to be source of instability*

**SOUTHERN SHUNEH, Jordan (AP)**—Fluctuating oil prices should not cause alarm, but are a key source of global instability, participants at the World Economic Forum said Saturday.

Oil prices have soared, with the degenerating security situation in Iraq and a recent terror attack on a petrochemical facility in Saudi Arabia fueling the rise.

Lost production in Iraq, lower production in Nigeria and Venezuela and exploding demand from China have aggravated the situation, analysts said.

“We should be concerned, not alarmed, about oil prices,” said Alan Larson, the U.S. undersecretary of state for economic affairs. “Oil is available to meet the needs of the global community, but fluctuating prices is a source of concern.”

Augusto Lopez-Claros, chief economist and director of the Global Competitiveness Program in the World Economic Forum, said “delays in restoring Iraq’s oil production” are of concern to the international community, as are fluctuating prices.

“Oil will remain a source of instability in the world, and perhaps in the short-term it is the most significant factor,” Lopez-Claros said.

In South Korea, the president of the Asian Development Bank said surging oil prices could slow regional financial reforms. Still, Tadao Chino opened the ADB’s annual meeting Saturday with optimistic forecasts for the region’s developing nations, which were expected to grow by 6.8 percent this year and 6.7 percent next year.

Confusion teems over new overtime changes

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—New federal overtime regulations will not take effect automatically in 18 states, provoking widespread confusion among state officials, employers and workers, and sparking political battles over how to respond.

Those states have their own overtime requirements, some of which mirror the old federal rules being replaced in August. Legislative action is required in some states to make changes, complicating an already complex and politically turbulent issue in an election year.

“It’s absolute craziness,” said Camille Olson, a labor lawyer with the firm Seyfarth Shaw in Chicago.

The Labor Department regulations issued last month will go into place automatically in 32 states and the District of Co-

lumbia, according to a Seyfarth Shaw analysis. Elsewhere, it is not so simple.

“We’re in a wait-and-see mode,” said John Andrew, chief of the Labor Standards Bureau in Montana’s Labor and Industry Department.

New federal definitions of some white-collar jobs would not apply in Montana without changes to state law or state administrative rules, he said. The Legislature may have to act, but it does not meet again until January.

The federal rule is a minimum standard. States can have their own requirements, but they cannot be less generous with overtime eligibility.

The rule rewrites definitions of white-collar workers exempt from overtime pay under the 1938 Fair Labor Standards Act.

stevedore



## Nation

## Report: Rumsfeld OK'd prisoner program

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld authorized the expansion of a secret program that encouraged physical coercion and sexual humiliation of Iraqi prisoners to obtain intelligence about the growing insurgency in Iraq, The New Yorker reported Saturday.

The Defense Department strongly denied the claims made in the report, which cited unnamed current and former intelligence officials and was published on the magazine's Web site. Pentagon spokesman Lawrence Di Rita issued a statement calling the claims "outlandish, conspiratorial, and filled with error and anonymous conjecture."

The story, written by reporter Seymour Hersh, said Rumsfeld decided to expand the program last year, broadening a Pentagon operation from the hunt for al-Qaida in Afghanistan to inter-

rogation of prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison in Baghdad.

Seven soldiers are facing military charges related to the abuse and humiliation of prisoners captured by the now-infamous photographs at the prison. Some of the soldiers and their lawyers have said military intelligence officials told military police assigned as guards to abuse the prisoners to make interrogations easier.

According to the story, which hits newsstands Monday, the initial operation Rumsfeld authorized gave blanket approval to kill or capture and interrogate "high value" targets in the war on terrorism. The program stemmed from frustrating efforts to capture high-level terrorists in the weeks after

the start of U.S. bombings in Afghanistan.

The program got approval from President Bush's national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice, and Bush was informed of its existence, the officials told Hersh.

Under the program, Hersh wrote, commandos carried out instant interrogations - using force if necessary - at secret CIA detention centers scattered around the world. The intelligence would be relayed to the commanders at the Pentagon.

Last year, Rumsfeld and Stephen Cambone, his undersecretary for intelligence, expanded the scope of the Pentagon's program and brought its methods to Abu Ghraib, Hersh wrote.

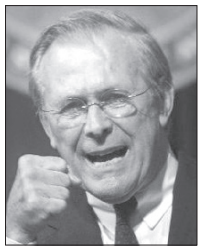
Critics say the interrogation

rules, first laid out in September after a visit to Iraq by the then-commander of the prison for terror suspects at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, amounted to a green light for abuse.

Defense Department officials deny that, saying prisoners always are treated under guidelines of the Geneva Conventions.

"No responsible official of the Department of Defense approved any program that could conceivably have been intended to result in such abuses as witnessed in the recent photos and videos," Di Rita said in his statement. "This story seems to reflect the fevered insights of those with little, if any, connection to the activities in the Department of Defense."

Di Rita also said Cambone has never had any responsibility for any detainee or interrogation programs.



Rumsfeld

## Poll: Bush job approval hits new low

**PHOENIX (AP)**—President Bush's job approval ratings are hitting the lowest levels of his tenure as problems in Iraq crowd out other issues for voters, public opinion specialists say.

A Newsweek poll released Saturday put Bush's overall job approval at 42 percent, the lowest yet in that poll. Other recent survey have rated Bush in the mid-40s.

"Iraq is sucking the life out of other issue deliberations among the voters in the campaign," said political scientist Douglas Strand of the University of California-Berkeley.

Strand and Merrill Shanks, also a political scientist at the school, have conducted public opinion research on how various issues are affecting the campaign.

They found Iraq has had a more dominant effect on the campaign since April 1. Gay marriage and other domestic issues have faded from voters' concerns as problems mount in Iraq, Strand said.

April was the bloodiest month for Americans in Iraq and the prisoner abuse scandal has put the Bush administration on the defensive.

The researchers talked about their findings Saturday during the meeting of the American Association for Public Opinion Research.

Bush's approval on how he has handled Iraq has dipped to 35 percent in the Newsweek poll, compared with 44 percent in April. Some 57 percent of respondents said they disapprove.

Despite the doubts about the president's Iraq policy, Bush and his rival, Democrat John Kerry, are essentially tied in a two-way matchup—Kerry at 46 percent and Bush at 45 percent. They are also tied when

independent Ralph Nader is included in the race.

The poll of 1,010 adults, including 832 registered voters, was taken Thursday and Friday. It has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

"People aren't running out of the Bush column, but his support is softening up," said Larry Huggins, who directed the Newsweek poll for Princeton Survey Research Associates.

He noted that strong support for Bush has dropped in the past month and Bush and Kerry now have about equal amounts of strong supporters.

## Girder drops from Colo. bridge, 3 killed

**GOLDEN, Colo. (AP)**—A 40-ton steel girder dropped from a freeway overpass construction site into morning traffic on Saturday, crushing one car and killing all three people inside.

The 100-foot-long girder sagged across three lanes of Interstate 70 west of Denver, shearing off the top of an SUV that was carrying a man, a woman and a young girl, said State Patrol Master Trooper Ron Watkins.

No other vehicles were involved in the accident, which occurred shortly after 10 a.m., Watkins said. The site is 10 miles west of downtown Denver.

The girder collapsed after temporary braces holding it in place gave way, state Department of Transportation spokeswoman Stacy Stegman said. Authorities had not determined why, she said.

U.S. Rep. Bob Beauprez said investigators were looking into the possibility of "criminal tampering." Jefferson County



Investigators are pictured at the scene of an accident on Interstate 70 west of Denver near Golden, Colo., on Saturday, May 15, 2004, where a steel girder fell from an overpass into morning highway traffic outside Denver crushing one car and killing three people.

sheriff's spokesman Jim Shires confirmed deputies were investigating but added, "We are not suspecting criminal activity took place."

A caller to radio station KOA described seeing a blue Dodge SUV cut in half.

"The front, from the driver's

seat forward, is about 200 feet down the road from the other part that's under the girder," the caller told KOA. The station did not identify the caller.

The girder was put up Tuesday as crews were adding a lane to a bridge carrying Colorado 470 over I-70, Stegman said. Each end of

the girder rested on a concrete pillar, and it had been attached to the existing bridge with five evenly spaced braces, she said.

The ends of the beam still rested on the pillars Saturday, but the middle drooped over the highway. The crushed remains of the car were underneath.



## Bald eagle leaving threatened species list

**SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)**—The American bald eagle—the national symbol whose decline helped spur the Endangered Species Act and a ban on the pesticide DDT—will be off the threatened species list this year, a top Bush administration official said Saturday.

Craig Manson, the administration's point man on the Endangered Species Act, said it's time to concentrate recovery efforts on more needy species.

"It's no longer endangered, but it's still deserving of special protection," Manson said in an interview.

The birds still would be safeguarded under the federal Bald Eagle Protection Act of 1940, which prohibits killing or selling the animals.

The Interior Department will outline its plans this summer after taking public comment on how to protect the birds' habitat while recognizing that its population has recovered, said Manson, the department's assistant secretary for fish and wildlife and parks.

"The more species that we get off the list that are ready to be recovered, the more we can start focusing on those that are

not quite there and ultimately move them off the list as well," he said.

Once common across North America, the bald eagle was reduced to just 417 known breeding pairs in the continental United States by 1963. Its habitat was being destroyed as the nation grew, ranchers looking to protect their sheep shot it, and widespread DDT use after World War II thinned eggshells, causing a crash in the eagles' birth rate.

By 1978, the bird was endangered in 43 states and threatened in five others. In 1995, the species was reclassified as threatened throughout the lower 48 states; it was never in danger in Alaska.

An endangered species is one that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range; a threatened species is likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future.

Today there are more than 7,678 breeding pairs of bald eagles in the contiguous United States, leading the group Environmental Defense to call on President Bush this week to "make history" by removing the bird from the federal list.



# Massachusetts to hold same-sex weddings

By **DAVID CRARY**  
AP NATIONAL WRITER

For better or for worse, depending on which side of the ideological aisle one chooses, a divided America crosses a historic threshold Monday as state-approved marriages of same-sex couples take place for the first time.

## US moves to restrict interrogation tactics

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Amid the uproar over the abuse of Iraqi prisoners, the senior U.S. commander in Iraq is moving to eliminate most coercive interrogation tactics.

The Pentagon says Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez is letting military intelligence chiefs know that their requests for such methods, which had been allowed with specific permission, will be turned down. Sanchez issued the order Thursday.

In its most comprehensive outline to date of methods that interrogators can use to question detained Iraqis, the Pentagon said Friday that Sanchez had approved 25 requests to isolate prisoners for interrogation since mid-October.

He had turned down three requests to put prisoners into uncomfortable positions to get them to talk, the officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Senior military officials also insisted that all interrogation techniques that have been approved have been allowable under international law.

Seven soldiers are facing military charges related to

Promised a waiver of the normal three-day waiting period, the seven gay and lesbian couples who successfully sued for marriage rights in Massachusetts will wed before relatives, friends and supporters in Boston and three other towns. The United States will become just the fourth country

the abuse and humiliation of prisoners captured by the now-infamous photographs at Abu Ghraib, a prison in Baghdad. The soldiers and their lawyers have said military intelligence officials running the interrogations told military police assigned as guards to abuse the prisoners to make interrogations easier.

Direct questioning without any physical contact and other such techniques are still permitted without approval from high-level officers, said the officials, who help draft and approve such rules in Iraq.

Until Thursday, more stressful techniques were allowed with Sanchez's approval, such as depriving detainees of sleep for more than 72 hours or forcing them into "stress positions"—making them kneel or stand uncomfortably for more than 45 minutes.

Sanchez told military intelligence officers Thursday that he would not approve any stressful techniques other than putting prisoners alone in cells or in segregated units with only a small number of other detainees.

in the world where same-sex couples can tie the knot.

The couples' jubilation will be shared by gay—rights advocates across the country, including many in states such as New York, California, Washington and New Jersey where comparable lawsuits are moving forward.

"This isn't just one historic moment in Massachusetts," said Kevin Cathcart, executive director of the gay-rights group Lambda Legal. "It's the start of what will be a long period of progress and breakthroughs, with gay couples in other states also winning the right to marry."

For foes of gay marriage, Monday's weddings represent a stinging defeat—but one

they hope will be reversed by a backlash among politicians and voters nationwide.

"What I'm starting to see is people who are apolitical, who never got involved before, saying, 'This is too much—we don't want same-sex marriage foisted on us,'" said Mathew Staver, president of a Florida-based legal group, Liberty Counsel, that is opposing gay marriage in numerous court cases.

Both sides in the debate expect the issue to figure prominently in the November election, with Massachusetts serving as a rallying cry and alarm bell.

Candidates for Congress will face pressure to explain their position on a proposed federal

constitutional amendment that would ban gay marriage. Voters in Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Missouri and Utah—and probably several other states—will consider similar amendments to their state constitutions.

"It will be a national referendum about gays and gay marriage," said Rod McKenzie of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. "We're the underdog when it comes to all these ballot measures—the scale is bigger than we've ever had to deal with."

In states with the ballot measures, divisive campaigns already are underway.

An Oklahoma gay-rights group, for example, took out

newspaper ads last week showing an outline of the state with "Closed" stamped over it. The ad contended that businesses would leave—or stay away—if voters approved the constitutional ban on gay marriage.

State Sen. James Williamson, a Republican from Tulsa, called the ad outrageous and predicted that a ban would attract new businesses.

"There is a real hunger for a return to traditional values and for leaders who will draw a line in the sand to help stop the moral decay of this country," he said.

Nationwide, both sides are planning marches and rallies over the coming week.

## Court orders couple to have no more children

**ROCHESTER, N.Y. (AP)**—When a drug-addicted homeless woman had her newborn taken away last spring, she agreed the baby should be placed in foster care with her three other children. A year later, a judge delivered a startling postscript: She ordered the parents to have no more children until they prove they can look after the ones they already have.

"All babies deserve more than to be born to parents who have proven they cannot possibly raise or parent a child," Family Court Judge Marilyn O'Connor wrote in a 12-page opinion. "The cycle of neglect ... needs to stop."

The unusual ruling has outraged civil libertarians, and was made all the more difficult by the revelation that the mother of the 1-year-old girl is already pregnant again.

But many lauded the government's desire to ensure children are raised in a healthy environ-

ment. A Rochester newspaper columnist, Mark Hare, echoed a multitude of radio talk-show callers in applauding "a wake-up call" to all parents to "put our children first."

It was the first known decision of its kind in New York, but courts in Wisconsin and Ohio have upheld similar rulings involving "deadbeat dads" who failed to pay child support. In other states, judges have turned back attempts to interfere with a person's right to procreate.

The infant girl's father, Rodney Evers, an admitted cocaine addict who stays periodically at the House of Mercy shelter for the homeless, described O'Connor's judgment as demeaning.

"I can't abide by something like that," said Evers, 54, his gaunt face and graying goatee shaded by a baseball cap. "I know for a fact that God said 'be fruitful and multiply.' This is telling me I have to be celibate. Man cannot play God."

ret. fund

## Asia

## GMA invites opponents to join new govt

By HRVOJE HRANJSKI  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—The Philippine government on Saturday warned rivals of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo that attempts to hold a “people power” revolt would be met with “the full force of the law,” as the country awaited official election results.

Final official results from the May 10 vote won't be out for weeks. A quick count by an officially sanctioned election watchdog group won't be finished for several days.

That count showed incumbent Arroyo leading action film star Fernando Poe Jr. by just over 2 percentage points at mid-day Saturday. An independent exit poll has predicted she'll win by 9 percentage points.

Arroyo has invited opponents to join a government of national unity and reconciliation. Poe has said he believes he won the election, and his party has threatened massive street protests to force Arroyo from power if necessary.

Poe's camp has claimed there were widespread election irregularities.

Presidential spokesman Ignacio Bunye said on Saturday that “any attempt to destabilize the government will be a blatant travesty of the Filipino people's will as expressed during the May 10 elections.”

“We discourage those disgruntled politicians and their allies from any sinister plans, which will be met with the full force of law,” he said in a statement.

The Philippine military has also warned that troops would use “necessary force” to maintain order.

In an ABS-CBN TV interview on Friday, Arroyo called the elections “an opportunity for change,” and said she needed a six-year mandate to complete economic and political reforms she began when she succeeded President Joseph Estrada after his ouster in a 2001 “people power” revolt.

Beating Poe and three other

candidates would give Arroyo her first public mandate to run the country.

Estrada, now in military detention, supports his friend Poe. He's warned of another “people power” uprising if the government cheats in the elections.

Communist Party founder Jose

Maria Sison said that left-wing parties seeking congressional seats can form “a broad united front with all other parties and candidates that the regime has also cheated.”

“The massive cheating can ignite a protest movement that is strong enough to topple the Macapagal-Arroyo regime,” he said in a statement.

Sison lives in exile in the Netherlands. The military believes he still leads the Communist Party and its military arm, the New People's Army.

Arroyo refused to talk about allegations of vote tampering and irregularities, and said opponents “can protest verbally”



Arroyo

## 100 Filipino workers to leave Iraq

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—About 250 Filipino workers have resigned from their jobs in Iraq and 100 of them will soon leave the war-ravaged country because of escalating attacks against coalition forces there, the Philippine government said Saturday.

The move follows the death of one Filipino worker and the wounding of four others in a mortar attack this past week at Camp Anaconda, north of Baghdad.

A government statement said President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo approved the recommendation of Ambassador Roy Cima, head of the

within the law.

She also tried reaching out to rivals, saying she wanted to form a “government of national unity and reconciliation, and it would be good if my opponents would join me.”

Arroyo said she'd work on “in-

Philippines' Iraq Team, to allow the voluntary repatriation of Filipino workers “while maintaining good relations with their employers.”

About 4,000 Filipino civilians work for contractors for the U.S. military at bases across Iraq.

In a report to Arroyo, Cima said 250 Filipinos working for Prime Projects International, which employs most of the Filipinos in Iraq, have resigned. The first group of 100 will be repatriated “within a few days” by chartered plane to Manila via Dubai, he said.

He said repatriation arrangements were being set up for workers deployed in

at least five insurgency flash-points—Mosul, Kirkuk, Tikrit, Al Fallujah and Al Ramadi.

The government statement said Arroyo also approved Cima's recommendation to allow Filipinos to continue working in Camp Anaconda provided that their quarters are moved five kilometers (three miles) from the camp perimeter, or outside mortar range.

Warehouse worker Raymond Natividad died Tuesday in the mortar attack at the camp.

“We cannot allow Filipino lives to be placed at wanton risk in a situation where unpredictable attacks are rife,” Arroyo said following the attack.

stitutional reforms” and changing the country's culture of corruption while speeding up privatization of public utilities and keeping the budget deficit down.

On Saturday in southern Cumbio municipality, four people were killed and two

others were wounded when supporters of the incumbent mayor tried to grab ballot boxes and the rifles of soldiers sent to collect election materials. The incident is under investigation, said local military commander Brig. Gen. Agustin Demaala.

## IDENTITY CARDS

Seven-year-old Zhao Xiran displays his new high-tech ID card after it was presented to him by police at a ceremony in Beijing Sunday, May 16, 2004. Zhao was the first person in Beijing to receive one of the new cards, which has an embedded chip containing details including name, date of birth, sex, and ethnic group. China began issuing the cards in other cities earlier in the year, and plans to distribute cards to its entire 1.3 billion population in the coming years.

AP



## Gandhi takes next step to gaining power

**NEW DELHI (AP)**—Sonia Gandhi moved a step closer Saturday to becoming India's first foreign-born prime minister when her Congress party, the upset winner in a parliamentary vote, unanimously re-elected her to lead them in the legislature.

The largely formal move reflected her party's apparent confidence that potential members of a parliamentary coalition now being formed will not object to her Italian birth or try to prevent her from becoming the latest in the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty to lead India.

Congress scored a stunning

general election victory this week over Atal Bihari Vajpayee's Hindu-nationalist coalition, and is now firmly on course to form a coalition government and take power within days.

“We are all aware that we have an enormous task ahead of us,” Gandhi told the lawmakers at the parliament building in New Delhi. “The way ahead is fraught with difficulties. Let us therefore not be complacent.”

Gandhi, 57, has scheduled meetings over the weekend with her allies, mostly leftist parties. If she gets their support, she would follow in the footsteps of

her husband Rajiv, assassinated in 1991 and her mother-in-law Indira, slain in 1984, to the premiership. Indira Gandhi's father Jawaharlal Nehru was India's first prime minister, taking power after it gained independence from Britain in 1947.

Gandhi said she felt “deeply humbled” standing before the new Congress lawmakers in the hall where her predecessors once stood. She would be the second woman to lead India.

“I feel greatly privileged. I stand here in this space occupied by my great teachers ... Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira-ji, Ra-

jiv-ji,” she said, using an honorific that means “esteemed.”

“I would like to remember them today. I would like to honor them today,” she said, wearing a traditional cream-colored sari.

There were two issues that could be stumbling blocks—Gandhi's foreign birth and the fact that she is not a Hindu. Born and raised in Italy, where the majority of people were Roman Catholic, Gandhi seldom mentions her religious beliefs, and said in a newspaper interview during the campaign that neither she nor her Italian parents were religious.

## ASIAN Briefs

## Blast wounds US soldier in Afghanistan

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)**—An explosive planted on a road in southeastern Afghanistan severely wounded a U.S. soldier, the military said Saturday.

The soldier was traveling in a convoy of U.S. military vehicles southeast of the Zabol provincial capital of Qalat on Thursday when an improvised explosive device detonated, U.S. military spokesman Tucker Mangser told a news conference.

The soldier was sent to the U.S.-led coalition headquarters at Bagram, north of Kabul, for medical treatment.

The spokesman gave no further details, including the identity of the injured soldier.

## Japan says it may not meet Kyoto targets

**TOKYO (AP)**—Japan, a staunch advocate of the Kyoto protocol on global warming, may not meet its targets for cutting pollution unless it takes drastic action.

Environmentalists criticize Tokyo for making renewable energy—such as wind and solar power—a low priority.

Tokyo has promised a 6 percent cut in emissions of greenhouse gases, thought to be a key cause of global warming.

The government recently released a progress report showing emissions of greenhouse gases up 8.2 percent in 2001 from the 1990 level. Automobile exhaust and effluents from coal-fired power plants are Japan's largest sources of pollution.

But greenhouse gases from office buildings has also increased sharply, said Yoshinori Tanaka, assistant director of the Environment Ministry's climate change policy division.

## US launches second Afghan abuse probe

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)**—The U.S. military on Saturday announced its second investigation in a week into allegations of prisoner abuse in Afghanistan, amid growing demands from rights groups for secretive U.S.-run jails across the country to be opened for outside scrutiny.

Army spokesman Lt. Col. Tucker Mangser gave few details of the latest allegations, which follow complaints earlier this week from an Afghan police officer who said he was beaten and sexually assaulted during 40 days in custody last summer.

“On Thursday, coalition leaders were notified of another allegation of detainee abuse. Upon notification coalition forces launched an immediate investigation,” Mangser said at a press conference in the capital Kabul.



# World

## US battles Shiites in Iraq, 5 GIs die

**BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP)**—The U.S. military said Saturday it killed 18 gunmen believed loyal to radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr in Baghdad, and jet fighters bombarded militia positions on the capital's outskirts. Skirmishes persisted in the southern holy cities of Najaf and Karbala.

The U.S. military also announced the deaths of five soldiers, including three killed by rebel attacks. In northern Iraq, rebels fired a mortar round at an Iraqi army recruiting center, killing four volunteers, hospital officials said.

U.S. troops are trying to disband the cleric's army and sideline its radical leadership before handing power to a new Iraqi government June 30. Al-Sadr is a fierce opponent of the U.S.-led occupation who launched an uprising last month and faces an arrest warrant in the death of a rival moderate cleric last year.

In Najaf, militiamen fired

a rocket-propelled grenade at a U.S. tank stationed at the city's Police Directorate. The rocket missed its target, and the two sides exchanged gunfire. Elsewhere, a shell landed on a house, wounding a woman.

The normally bustling area around Karbala's Imam Hussein shrine, one of the holiest centers for Shiite Muslims, was silent except for intermittent blasts and machine-gun fire. After one blast, a huge column of black smoke wafted over the golden-domed shrine. One Polish soldier was wounded in Saturday's skirmishes, the Polish military said in Warsaw.

The confrontations in the two holy cities in Iraq's southern Shiite heartland were less intense than in previous days.

In Baghdad, coalition forces killed 18 fighters, many of them in the eastern Sadr City neighborhood, a stronghold of al-Sadr, in a dozen separate

engagements Friday and Saturday, the military said in a statement. Troops also killed seven gunmen who attacked them in western Baghdad on Saturday morning, said Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt, the chief military spokesman in Iraq.

Guerrillas fired a mortar round at an Iraqi army recruiting center in the northern city of Mosul, killing four people and wounding 19, hospital officials said. The shell landed in a crowd of people waiting to sign up for the military. Kimmitt said the projectile was a mortar shell or a rocket-propelled grenade.

Insurgents have previously targeted police and army recruitment centers in an effort to undermine Iraqi involvement in the U.S.-led coalition.

Hussein Assem, a 25-year-old army volunteer, suffered shrapnel wounds in a hand and leg and was taken to a hospital.

### *Daily Mirror apologizes for fake photos*

**LONDON (AP)**—The Daily Mirror newspaper issued a front page apology Saturday for publishing faked photographs of the alleged abuse of Iraqi prisoners by British forces.

"Sorry .. We were hoaxed," read the banner headline on the front of the tabloid, as the Ministry of Defense revealed that four soldiers had been arrested and questioned by military police investigating the allegations of abuse.

The ministry said all four were released without charge some time ago. A spokeswoman

declined to reveal details about the arrests or investigation, which is continuing.

The Daily Mirror headline was accompanied by a "Voice of the Daily Mirror" editorial, which said the paper now believed the pictures were fakes.

"The evidence against them is not strong enough to convict in a court but that is not the burden of proof the Daily Mirror demands of itself," it said. "So to you readers today we apologize for publishing pictures which we now believe were not genuine."

The Mirror said it would donate to charity all money made from the syndicated sale of the hoax pictures to other media outlets. It said the international Red Cross and the British armed forces would choose the charities.

"It would not be right to profit from the sale of those images," the newspaper's owner, Trinity Mirror PLC., said in a statement.

The published apology followed a similar statement from Trinity Mirror on Friday, and the announcement that editor Piers Morgan was stepping down.

### Plane crashes in Brazil's Amazon, 33 dead

**SAO PAULO, Brazil (AP)**—A domestic airliner crashed near the Amazon city of Manaus, killing all 30 passengers and three crew members, a fire department official said Saturday.

The turboprop plane owned by regional airliner Rico Linhas Aereas was traveling from the western Amazon city Sao Paulo de Olivenca to Manaus, the inland capital of the state of Amazonas, when it crashed

Friday night, said Manaus Fire Department rescue official Maj. Ernesto Rodrigues.

The plane dropped off the radar at Manaus' Eduardo Gomes International Airport at about 6:30 p.m. Friday about 10 miles from the runway after it suspended landing procedures to allow another plane carrying sick people on the way to a hospital to land, he said. Manaus is 1,500 miles north of Sao Paulo.

The plane crashed in dense jungle, making it difficult for rescue crews to reach the wreckage, he said. About 30 Manaus Fire Department, Brazilian Air Force and Brazilian Army members were working at the site, he said.

"The plane crashed early Friday evening and rescue crews were called in immediately," Rodrigues said. "As of this morning, however, it became clear there were no survivors."

### Israelis rally for Gaza strip withdrawal

**TEL AVIV, Israel (AP)**—More than 100,000 Israelis rallied Saturday night in favor of a pullout from the Gaza Strip, a massive show of strength by the long-dormant opposition movement.

Saturday night's protest, led by the opposition Labor Party, followed a bloody week in Gaza in which 13 Israeli soldiers and 32 Palestinians were killed. Fighting continued early Sunday, as Israeli helicopters fired missiles at targets in Gaza City, knocking out power and causing widespread panic.

Demonstrators packed Tel Aviv's Rabin Square, where Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was killed in 1995 by a Jewish extremist opposed to peace efforts, for Saturday's rally. Israeli media estimated the crowd at up to 150,000 people, one of the largest rallies by Israel's so-called peace camp since Rabin's death.

Organizers hoped the strong showing would breathe new life into the opposition and help restart peace talks with the Palestinians, which have been stalled for months.

"Exit from Gaza, begin talking," read a large poster over the main stage.

Some demonstrators held placards in support of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, who has proposed withdrawing from the Gaza Strip, a volatile area where 7,500 Jewish settlers live among 1.3 million Palestinians.

Members of Sharon's Likud Party recently vetoed the pullout plan, although polls have shown a solid majority of Israelis favor the proposal.

"This is a protest of the majority," opposition leader



AP

A Palestinian boy wounded in an Israeli missile strike is carried into hospital in Gaza City, Sunday, May 16, 2004. Israeli helicopters fired missiles at three targets in Gaza City early Sunday, knocking out electricity in part of the city and wounding at least two Palestinians.

Shimon Peres told the crowd in a fiery speech. "Eighty percent of our people want peace. One percent are trying to block it."

Other speakers included Ami Ayalon, a former director of the Shin Bet internal security service, and Yom Tov Samia, a former military commander responsible for Gaza.

While the protest was set up weeks ago, organizers and participants said the latest fighting in Gaza gave the rally added weight.

"I think many people decided to come out today because of the soldiers getting killed in Gaza this week," said Tal Kfir, a 26-year-old student from Tel Aviv.

cda



## Health &amp; Fitness

## Playing your way to better health

By ABIGAIL TRAFFORD  
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

**F**orget broccoli. Forget the treadmill. Go play the violin! Doing something creative is good for your health. That's the conclusion of a recent study assessing the health effects of participating in music, art, dance and poetry programs. Researchers had expected that such activities would help people feel better and perhaps slow the rate of physical decline with age.

The surprise? People got healthier. And happier. "After a year, we saw actual improvement," says Gene D. Cohen of George Washington University, who heads the ongoing study of about 300 men and women over age 65. The study, sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Institute of Mental Health and other organizations, is taking place in three cities. In Washington, the "research subjects" are singers in a chorale at the Levine School of Music, a community music school with 3,500 students in the Washington area. In Brooklyn and San Francisco, the guinea pigs are mixture of writers, painters and jewelry makers.

Half of the people in the study are engaged in the cultural programs—the "intervention arm." Half are in the "control group." Both groups are similar in health status. They all live on their own. The average age is 80. Both groups are being monitored on a range of measures from physical strength to mental health and social behavior.

Preliminary findings, released late last month, point to impressive benefits of a creative fitness regimen. After a year, those in the cultural study group were healthier than they were when the study began. They were also in better shape than those in the control group. They reported better overall health, fewer doctor visits, less use of medications, fewer falls and hip damage. They also reported less depression, less loneliness and higher morale.

All this suggests that mental activities play a significant role in health. Besides, singing in a chorus can be a lot more interesting than doing push-ups or popping tomatoes. Of course, you can do all three. It's common sense that diet and exercise matter to health. But it's nice to know that belting out Handel's

"Messiah" or throwing paint on a canvas matters, too. Maybe just as much.

"Individuals can do things (in the creative arts) to affect their health and functioning," says Cohen, director of GWU's Center on Aging, Health and Humanities. "You can develop programs that make a difference.... These programs can lower the (medical) burden on society."

A study published in 1999 in the British Medical Journal found that in people over 65 social and cultural activities such as book clubs had the same impact on longevity and general health as physical fitness programs.

as well as the body. It poses a challenge—to get better, to learn. That can lead to a sense of mastery and empowerment. Because you are part of

**"A creative program engages the brain as well as the body. It poses a challenge—to get better, to learn. That can lead to a sense of mastery and empowerment. Because you are part of a group, you are connected with other people."**

a group, you are connected with other people. In the Washington program, men and women sing and bond, they see each other regularly for rehearsals and performances. They come to care about each other, says Cohen.

All of this improves morale and reduces the risk of social isolation, one of the well-known risks of illness and death.

Cohen says he believes that creativity is hard-wired in the species. But one of the hurdles for older people is a kind of Mozart syndrome—the myth that if you don't start in the creative arts as a child, it's too late.

Patricia Preston of Hyattsville, Md., picked up the violin when she was 67.

For most of her life, she was a clinical social worker. For 15 years she ran an eating disorders clinic; the work was intense.

When she left the clinic, she says, "I was looking forward to something completely different."

So she turned to an old dream. "I had always wanted to play the violin," says Preston, now 73. She could play the piano, mostly byear—pop tunes like "Blue Moon" and "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes." But she wanted to do more. "I could never play classical music well enough to satisfy myself."

During all those years working and raising a family—she and her husband have three children and 10 grandchildren—she kept her talent on the sidelines.

As she approached her final year at the clinic, she turned to music. At first, she rented a violin and took a couple of lessons. Then she bought her own instrument.

Six years later, she's still taking lessons. She plays in a string ensemble. She plays in a quartet. She's been studying music theory. "I feel I've gone off to conservatory—practicing, playing, doing music theory homework," she continues. "I have a passion for it. That's what makes it so exciting."

Learning to play the violin is a challenge. "It's a very humbling experience. It's a lot harder than I ever believed it would be—the fingering with the left hand and the bowing with the right," she explains.

But she is getting better and doing more difficult pieces. Some Handel sonatas. A little Vivaldi.

It's pleasure. It's empowerment. Her children, she says, are amazed at her performances. It's also people. She has made connections with the other musicians in the quartet and the ensemble.

To Cohen, empowerment and connection are important benefits of any creative program. "You have individual mastery and interpersonal growth," says Cohen, author of "The Creative Age: Awakening Human Potential in the Second Half of Life" (HarcourtCollins, 2000). "The nature of the work keeps you engaged."

And for Preston, there's another bonus: playing Bach duets with her 13-year-old granddaughter, who is also learning the violin.





## Life & Style

# Conan Doyle archive goes on display

By **AUDREY WOODS**  
AP WRITER

Sherlock Holmes enthusiasts got a rare glimpse into the private world of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle as thousands of personal papers—from his passport to his jotted-down story ideas—went on display last week.

At the same time, the archive has become entwined in a mystery worthy of Conan Doyle's celebrated fictional detective: the bizarre death of a leading Holmes scholar.

The papers are to be auctioned off Wednesday, perhaps to disappear again into the obscurity of private ownership, a fate that had obsessed Richard Lancelyn Green, a former chairman of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London.

Lancelyn Green, 50, was found dead in his bed on March 27, garroted with a shoelace tightened by a wooden spoon, and surrounded by stuffed toys.

At an inquest last month, Coroner Paul Knapman said suicide was the most likely explanation, but he acknowledged there was no note, that garroting was a painful way to kill oneself, and that it therefore had been a "very unusual death." He said the deceased had been acting paranoid, but that people assumed it was baseless.

Family and friends said Lancelyn Green had become

fixated on the Conan Doyle archive, believing it should be available to students and scholars, not sold and dispersed.

"He might have been in the prime position to write the definitive biography of Conan Doyle," said his friend, Nicholas Utechin, editor of The Sherlock Holmes Journal.

The items for sale are displayed at Christie's auction house and viewable on the Internet.

The notebooks provide a fascinating picture of how one of history's most successful authors practiced his craft. They contain Conan Doyle's story ideas and research notes, as well as rough scenarios of how plots might unfold.

They are a reminder, too, that although Sherlock Holmes was Conan Doyle's greatest creation, he wrote with great success of Professor Challenger in "The Lost World," of a cavalryman in Napoleon's army with "The Exploits of Brigadier Gerard," and of medieval history in "The White Company."

Other items provide intimate glimpses of a man who dearly loved his family—his well-worn wallet contains fond birthday letters from his children and a creased photo of a son who died.

Affectionate letters to his wife, Jean, are addressed to "My own sweet love," and "You dear little angel."

Up for auction are about 25 to 30 percent of the papers that would have been in Conan Doyle's study when he died in 1930, said Tom Lamb, head of Christie's books and manuscripts department. He said family members had been selling items over the years.

The auction is a great disappointment to scholars who hoped the papers would be donated to a public institution.

Lancelyn Green, co-author of an important bibliography of the author, was most deeply affected.

"He did become sadly obsessive about this matter in the weeks leading towards his death," Utechin told BBC radio on Thursday. He was "quite clearly very perturbed indeed about the sale of these items at Christie's."

At Lancelyn Green's inquest, his sister, Priscilla Lancelyn West, said "something about this sale was worrying him enormously, and I tried to get him to explain to me what it was."

His cryptic comments, she said, sounded like "the beginning of a thriller novel."

At Christie's, Lamb said the auction house had consulted Lancelyn Green as an expert and "he was very happy to help us." In fact, eight of the photographs that illustrate the sale catalogue are "by courtesy of Richard Lancelyn Green."

The auctioneer expects the sale will earn about \$3.5 mil-



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's passport dating from the First World War on view at Christie's auction house in London Thursday May 13, 2004. AP

lion for the beneficiaries of the author's daughter-in-law, Anna Conan Doyle.

In the 1940s and 1960s, two Conan Doyle scholars had access to the papers, but after the death in 1970 of the author's son

Adrian, court battles broke out over the estate, and the collection was locked up in a lawyer's office for about 25 years.

Sir Christopher Frayling, head of the Arts Council, which allocates government arts funding,

called the papers "a vast piece of English heritage" that should be kept together for future scholars.

"If this was Jane Austen or Charles Dickens, there would be a national outcry," he told BBC Radio.

## Media seek end to Jackson gag order

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—In court documents filed Friday, Michael Jackson's attorneys agreed with prosecutors that people involved in the superstar's child molestation case should continue to be barred from discussing it publicly.

Attorneys representing the media, meanwhile, criticized the court-imposed gag order and Santa Barbara County prosecutors' attempt to uphold it.

"Eliminating the gag order will ensure that more accurate information will be disseminated, and will reduce the amount

of rumors, speculation and gossip about which the District Attorney complains," wrote attorney Theodore Boutros, who represents various news organizations, including The Associated Press.

The lawyers submitted arguments to the state Supreme Court, which is deciding whether to hear the case over whether the gag order should be lifted.

District Attorney Thomas Sneddon submitted a letter to the court saying the gag order is important to keep an untainted pool of potential jurors. Sned-

don criticized the media in the letter, saying it has pandered to a "gossip-hungry" audience.

Jackson's attorney Thomas Mesereau wrote that he and his client support the gag order and withdrew any objections to it made by Jackson's prior counsel.

Calls left for Mesereau on Friday were not immediately returned.

Jackson has pleaded not guilty to charges of child molestation and a conspiracy count involving allegations of child abduction, false imprisonment and extortion.

## Olive Osmond buried amid tight security

**SALT LAKE CITY, Utah (AP)**—Olive Osmond, the matriarch of the Osmond family, was buried Saturday amid tight security after rumors surfaced of a \$30,000 bounty for a photograph of her in a coffin. A family spokesman said there were no apparent attempts at taking such a picture.

Fans had contacted the Osmond Brothers in Branson, Mo., to tell them a Web site had posted a rumor offering money for photo of their mother in the coffin, surrounded by her children.

"If in fact the threat and Web

site we heard about was for real, I don't think they got what wanted," said family spokesman Ron Clark.

Osmond, 79, died last Sunday of complications from a stroke she suffered more than two years ago.

Clark said about 20 security personnel watched over Provo's Oak Hills Stake Center, a meetinghouse for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, as 1,200 people attended the funeral service and burial in a nearby cemetery.

Publicity about the photo

rumor made the family and friends wary. "Everybody was looking out of their eye twice at each other," Clark said.

Purses weren't allowed during Friday night's viewing. The family didn't close the funeral to the public, but asked the public to be observe the dignity of the traditional Mormon funeral.

Some of George and Olive Osmond's nine children achieved fame in the 1960s and 1970s, when they produced 34 gold and platinum records, and have continued to record music and make television appearances.

nmhc survey



# 'Shrek 2' among films competing in Cannes

By DAVID GERMAIN  
AP MOVIE WRITER

CANNES, France (AP)—Even the snooty Cannes Film Festival loves computer animation, which has become such the rage in Hollywood it has virtually displaced traditional hand-drawn cartoons on studio slates.

The computer-generated "Shrek" (2001) was the first cartoon in 27 years to make Cannes' prestigious main competition, and the sequel "Shrek 2" is among 19 competing films at Cannes this year.

The fairy tale sequel faces such serious competition as Wong Kar-wai's time-bending tale "2046" and "Fahrenheit 9/11," Michael Moore's critique of the Bush administration's actions after the Sept. 11 attacks.

An onslaught of computer-animated films including "Finding Nemo," the "Toy Story" movies, "Monsters, Inc.," "Antz" and "Shrek" have pushed hand-painted cartoons into the background.

The slates at Disney and DreamWorks are dominated by computer-generated animation, or CG, and neither studio has any traditional hand-painted cartoon features in the pipeline.

"Ours is a creative choice," said Jeffrey Katzenberg, who co-founded DreamWorks with Steven Spielberg and David Geffen and is executive producer of "Shrek 2."

"We have a series of movies ("Shrek," "Madagascar") coming that have been very much inspired by 'Shrek.' They are in sensibility that kind of movie in that they are somewhat

irreverent, they are somewhat subversive," he said. "They're parodies, they're satire, they are very anthropomorphized, and they are best told in CG."

Computers allow animators to create simulated three-dimensional realities that appeal to a generation raised on video games with greater visual depth than two-dimensional hand-drawn cartoons.

Only a handful of computer-animated features have been made so far, but sharp and funny stories, bright visuals and famous voices have made virtually all of them major hits. Last year's Disney-Pixar adventure "Finding Nemo" passed the hand-drawn "The Lion King" to become the top-grossing animated movie ever at \$340 million domestically.

"Shrek 2" starred Mike Myers, who provided the voice of the gentle green ogre; Cameron Diaz, the voice of Shrek's bride Princess Fiona; and Eddie Murphy, who plays Shrek's garrulous sidekick, Donkey.

The sole bomb among computer-animated movies was "Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within." The difference: Computer-animated hits like "Monsters, Inc." and "Shrek" told good stories. "Final Fantasy" didn't.

"Monsters, Inc." worked because it was such a charming story, and you really bought into the relationship between John Goodman and the little girl," said Jennifer Tilly, one of the voice stars for "Home on the Range."

"People didn't flock out to see 'Monsters, Inc.' because you could see every little hair follicle on his back. It's nice that it looks



American actress Cameron Diaz, left, Canadian actor Mike Myers, center, and Spanish actor Antonio Banderas, right, pose while a man in a Shrek costume stands behind, during a photocall for their animated film "Shrek 2" at the 57th International Film Festival in Cannes, southern France, Saturday, May 15, 2004.

## Stars of 'Shrek 2' have rare get-together

CANNES, France (AP)—The stars of "Shrek 2" mostly recorded their scenes at different times, so their appearance Saturday at the Cannes Film Festival was a rare get-together.

The movie is competing for the top prize and Cameron Diaz, Mike Myers, Eddie Murphy, Antonio Banderas, Rupert Everett and Julie Andrews were all on hand.

Working alone in a sound-

booth for "Shrek 2" had its advantages, said Myers, who provided the voice of the gentle green giant.

"The nicest thing is, I can come (to work) and I don't have to shower," he quipped.

Diaz, who plays Shrek's green-skinned bride Princess Fiona, said, "There's a sort of freedom in just making faces that will never be seen."

But sometimes somebody does

see those facial expressions, said Murphy, who plays Shrek's garrulous sidekick, Donkey.

"When you're doing the voiceover sessions, they'll have a video camera recording what you're doing and the animators will take a gesture or a facial expression and they'll kind of add that," he said.

"It's scary ... Every now and then the donkey will make a face or something like I do," he said.

Hollywood's follow-the-leader mentality that has elevated computer animation over the tra-

ditional cartoon form, which had ruled since Disney invented feature-length animation with 1937's

## John Kerry's daughter takes film to Cannes

CANNES, France (AP)—The eldest daughter of U.S. presidential candidate John Kerry came to the Cannes Film Festival with a short movie about a 9-year-old girl and her father's difficult return home from the Vietnam War.

Alexandra Kerry, 30, who has made four short films, showed "The Last Full Measure" on Saturday. The movie is not competing for prizes.

The 15-minute film paints a dreamlike portrait of a girl having trouble coping with her father's return from Vietnam.

It shows a man ravaged by war—he sleeps a lot, needs a shave and his hands shake so badly at dinner that he spills wine down the front of his shirt.

The movie is a tender portrait of father and daughter: He is attentive and affectionate as his doting daughter follows him around. But beyond the father-daughter relationship, the movie is not autobiographical, said Kerry, whose father is a

decorated Vietnam veteran.

"I wasn't born when my father came back from Vietnam," she told reporters. "The characters are fictional, completely."

Though the movie is set in the Vietnam era, Kerry said she wanted it to seem timeless.

"I also tried to give it a little bit of a surrealist feeling, in the sense that I wanted it to be something that was about any war," she said.

Kerry said her father hasn't seen the movie yet. "I'm sort of blackmailing him," she said. "I won't let him see it until he sees it in a cinema. I didn't want to show it on a little computer screen."

The filmmaker is one of Kerry's daughters from his marriage with Julia Thorne. A younger daughter, Vanessa, is a medical student who took time off from Harvard to work on the campaign.

After their parents' marriage fell apart in 1982, the girls lived primarily with their mother.

## 'Helter Skelter' revisits Manson murders

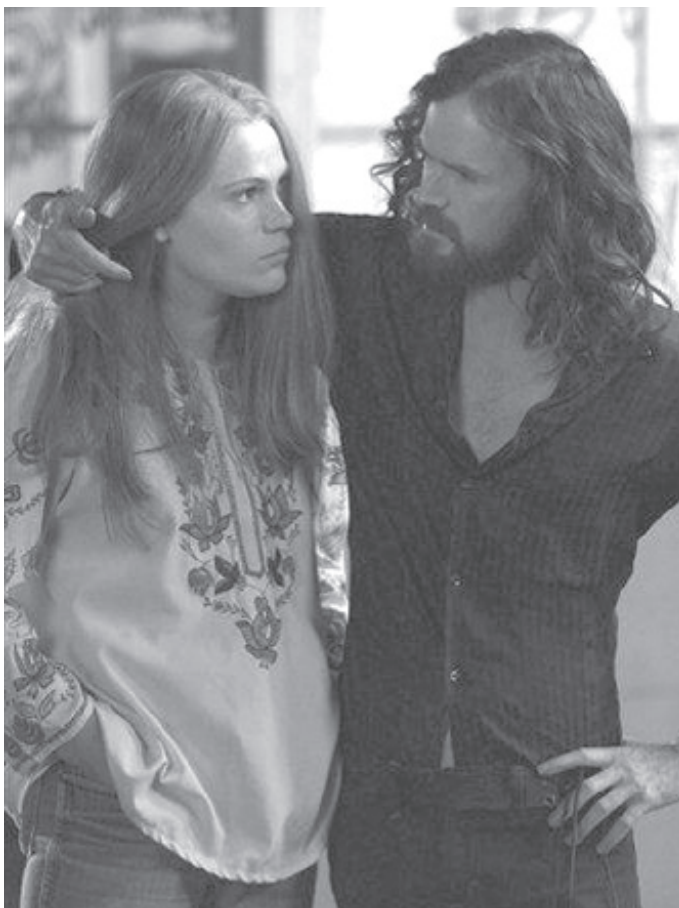
LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Helter Skelter," CBS' Sunday movie about the 1969 murders committed by Charles Manson's followers, is more tell than show when it comes to the brutal crimes.

In a time of increased scrutiny of TV standards, that isn't the result of network caution alone. The producer said he didn't need CBS to tell him to toe the line in the three-hour film.

"There's always a fine line, because on the one hand you don't want to sanitize and sugarcoat what happened," Gray said. "On the other hand, there's no need to be all that drastically visceral about it."

"I think we found a way to suggest the horror of what went on in those houses .... There's very, very quick and stylized scenes that I think are disturbing, but not so graphic that people will want to turn away."

Jeremy Davies ("Saving Private Ryan") plays Manson and bears a striking resemblance to the slight, fierce-eyed figure. The cast includes Bruno Kirby, Clea DuVall and Allison Smith.



Clea DuVall as Linda Kasabian, left, and Jeremy Davies as Charles Manson appear in this scene from CBS' "Helter Skelter," in this undated publicity photo.

"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." Hand-drawn animation went through a sterile period in the 1960s and 1970s but roared back with a creative renaissance in the 1980s and 1990s.

"CG is the new thing that people are interested in animation, and 2-D had a huge run there. It had about a 17-year golden age that it's kind of coming off of," said Kelly Asbury, co-director of "Shrek 2."

"Lilo & Stitch" in 2002 was the last certified U.S. hit among hand-drawn animated movies.

Hand-drawn animation continues to thrive outside the United States with growing international interest in Japanese anime and with such smaller flicks as last year's Cannes offering, "The Triplets of Belleville."

Katzenberg, who as a Disney executive in the 1980s and 1990s oversaw the revival of the studio's animation division, said hand-drawn cartoons are simply awaiting another reinvention to inject "something fresh and new."

Will Smith, voice star of DreamWorks' computer-animated "Shrek" due out this fall, said the animation debate reminds him of the music scene in the 1980s.

"That same question was posed to me probably about 15 years ago in the music business when everything started moving to drum machines and synthesizers and all of that," said Smith, at Cannes to promote "Shrek 2."

"There's a period where you go the digital or CG route, but I think it will always come back to the human flaw that pleases the eye. ... I don't think traditional animation will ever disappear totally."

"Helter Skelter" was conceived when Wolper saw a 2002 news report on Manson's latest unsuccessful effort to gain parole. The producer was struck by the continuing fascination with the case, which was detailed in prosecutor Vincent Bugliosi's best-selling book, "Helter Skelter."

Manson was convicted of masterminding two nights of terror in August 1969. On the first night, his followers killed pregnant actress Sharon Tate and four others at her home. Wealthy store owners Leno and Rosemary La Bianca were slain in their home the next evening.

Manson has said he was trying to start a race war that he thought was foreshadowed in the Beatles' song "Helter Skelter."

His chief lieutenant Charles "Tex" Watson and three women - Leslie Van Houten, Susan Atkins and Patricia Krenwinkel - were convicted and sentenced to death.

The sentences later were commuted to life when the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the death penalty.





## Gwyneth Paltrow names new baby girl Apple

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Oscar-winning actress Gwyneth Paltrow has given birth to her first child, a baby girl named Apple Blythe Alison Martin. The baby, weighing 9 pounds, 11 ounces, was born in a London hospital Friday after what Paltrow's husband, Coldplay lead singer Chris Martin, described as "a long labor." Mother and daughter were said to be doing fine.

"We are 900 miles over the moon, and we'd like to thank everyone at the hospital who have looked after us amazingly," Martin said in a statement released by spokesman Murray Chalmers.

Paltrow announced last December that she and Martin, 26, were expecting a baby. The

couple, who have been scrupulous about maintaining their privacy, were wed in December during a private ceremony in Santa Barbara.

The 31-year-old actress, who won an Oscar for "Shakespeare in Love," is the daughter of actress Blythe Danner and the late director Bruce Paltrow.

She hinted during an interview with W magazine earlier this year that she may do as her mother did and put her acting career on hold to raise her child.

"My mother turned down every fantastic movie there was," said Paltrow, who starred opposite her mother in last year's film "Sylvia." "She turned down these amazing things that would have made her a huge movie star."

Hollywood star Gwyneth Paltrow shown in this Nov. 6, 2003 file photo, in London.

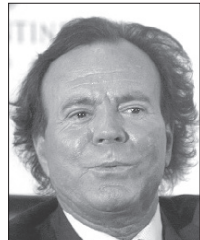
AP

## Julio Iglesias plans to marry girlfriend

**NEW YORK (AP)**—To all the girls he's loved before, Julio Iglesias has a message: He's going to love only one girl from now on.

The Spanish singer plans to marry his girlfriend of the past 14 years, Miranda Rijnsburger. The couple has four children: Miguel, 6; Rodrigo, 5; and twin 3-year-old daughters, Victoria and Cristina.

He and Rijnsburger had discussed waiting to wed until their children were old enough to understand that they were doing it for love, not a sense of obligation.



Iglesias

"Now she's telling me for the first time, in the last six months, that we should reconsider to get married now," the 60-year-old says in an interview on "CBS News Sunday Morning" from his home in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. "I think we will get married this year, yes."

This will be Iglesias' second marriage. His first marriage to Isabel Preysler, mother of singers Enrique Iglesias and Julio Iglesias Jr., was annulled.

"CBS News Sunday Morning" airs at 9 a.m. EDT.

## Vanity Fair editor's ethics scrutinized

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—The editor of Vanity Fair magazine has come under scrutiny for his activities within the entertainment industry and his involvement with people the magazine covers.

Among the circumstances that have led to questions about Graydon Carter is a \$100,000 "consultant fee" he accepted for his role in the production of the film "A Beautiful Mind."

That payment and other relationships Carter has within the entertainment industry were detailed Friday in two newspaper reports.

Carter has served as a producer on two documentaries and was listed as a producer on a movie script that was based on an article written for Vanity Fair,

according to stories published by the Los Angeles Times and The New York Times.

The \$100,000 payment from Universal Pictures was for recommending that his friend, producer Brian Grazer, make a film from the book "A Beautiful Mind." Vanity Fair had published excerpts from the book.

The movie won the Academy Award for best picture in 2002, and Grazer thanked Carter in his acceptance speech.

Vanity Fair spokeswoman Beth Kseniak told The Associated Press the payment came a year and a half after the movie was made and "was not a negotiated deal." She said Carter did not request the payment in exchange for his recommendation, although he accepted it.



American film director Michael Moore, left, presents his film "Fahrenheit 9/11", in competition, at the 57th International Film Festival.

AP

## Moore says he'll 'tell all' about Disney

**CANNES, France (AP)**—Michael Moore said he will eventually "tell all" about his clash with Walt Disney Co., which stopped subsidiary Miramax from distributing his anti-President Bush documentary "Fahrenheit 9/11."

Moore was at the Cannes Film Festival on Saturday, where the film was to premiere Monday in the main competition.

Film critic Roger Ebert, who moderated a panel with Moore, asked if he thought about making a movie called "Michael and Me," about Disney chief executive Michael Eisner.

The question was a reference to Moore's first film, 1989's "Roger & Me," which chronicles Moore's attempts to confront General Motors chief Roger Smith about the automaker's plant closings.

"I have a lot to say about Disney, and a lot that hasn't been reported," said Moore, who won an Academy Award for his scathingly funny "Bowling for Columbine," an indictment of America's gun culture.

Harvey and Bob Weinstein, who run Miramax, have said they plan to buy "Fahrenheit 9/11" and find a different distributor.

## Woman fears confession may not be good for her soulmate

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

**DEAR ABBY:** I am 24 and have been in many bad relationships. Every guy I have dated has been an addict, and some of them have been in jail. All of them were abusive.

Finally, I have met a decent man and I care for him a lot. The problem? I have a criminal record and haven't told him because I didn't want to scare him off.

If I tell him now, he will know I lied, and he has made it clear that he hates

liars. So far, I have been able to avoid telling him about my past, but I won't be able to much longer, and I'll have to fill in the blanks.

What am I going to do? Should I tell the truth and face the consequences, which will probably mean losing him, or continue skirting the issue with lies?

TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES IN TEXAS

**DEAR TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES:** Honesty is the best policy. Tell him now. The longer you wait, the more deceived he will feel. Explain that you kept silent because you were afraid you would lose him. It's the truth. He may not be thrilled with the news, but he will have to give you marks for wanting to set the record straight. I wish you luck.

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband is a self-employed contractor. We recently had to convert our home office into a bedroom for my son, so our "office" is now in our bedroom until we can add on to the house. My husband has a new client who thinks nothing of calling at 10 p.m. or later, and last night he sent a fax at 11:45! The ringing woke me and it took two hours to get back to sleep.

I want my husband to ask his clients not to call after 9 p.m. He thinks I'm being unreasonable, and he's embarrassed to admit that our office is in our bedroom. I don't think any explanations are necessary. What do you think? This issue is creating hard feelings.

SLEEPLESS IN THE MOUNTAINS

**DEAR SLEEPLESS:** I have another idea. Most phones and faxes have switches that control the ringer volume. Turn them off when you go to bed, and you should be able to slumber like a baby. If yours do not have volume control, consider investing in ones that do.

**DEAR ABBY:** This letter is for "Invited but Can't Always Go," who is reluctant to allow her daughter to attend all the birthday parties to which she is invited because she can't afford to buy the gifts.

I suggest that the girl create a scrapbook of the event. She can take photos and collect memorabilia such as napkins, ribbons and wrapping paper for the scrapbook. She might use pieces of the wrapping paper as borders or corners for the pages, or "frames" for the photos she'll mount inside. She could also have each guest write a special note or birthday wish for the party child and include them.

In her card to the birthday child, she should include a note that says her gift will arrive in a week or so. I have done this for shower gifts, and they always become treasured keepsakes.

ON THE CHEAP IN KENTUCKY

**DEAR ON THE CHEAP:** Treasured? I'm sure they are priceless! Thank you for a terrific idea.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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# Pastimes

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